

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 DPW-01 H-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /048 W

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R 140447Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6727

C O N F I D E N T I A L 1675

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, LA, US

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY HABIB'S APPEARANCE BEFORE HOUSE SELECT
COMMITTEE ON MIA'S

REF STATE 173433

1. THERE HAVE BEEN NO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN REGARD TO MIA
SITUATION IN LAOS OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY REPORTED AS
FOLLOWS:

A. REQUEST APPOINTMENT WITH SECSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KHAMPHAY BOUPHA (VIENTIANE 0693, MARCH 18, 1976).

B. CALL ON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL TO FOLLOW UP ON REQUEST (VIENTIANE
0813, APRIL 2, 1976).

C. SENT NOTE NO. 068 TO FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORTING PROPOSED
CODEL MONTGOMERY VISIT AND REQUESTING MEETING WITH CHEF
DE CABINET SOUBANH SRITHIRATH OR OTHER APPROPRIATE LAO OFFICIAL
(VIENTIANE 0825, APRIL 5, 1976)M

D. FOLLOWED UP ON REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH KHAMPHAY
BOUPHA TO MAKE DEMARCHE ON MIA'S (VIENTIANE 0827, APRIL 5, 1976).

E. UPON CANCELLATION OF PROPOSED CODEL MONTGOMERY VISIT
DELIVERED TO FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE NO. 56 (PREPARED IN MARCH PER
PARA 1A ABOVE AND SUBSEQUENTLY UP-DATED. VIENTIANE 0897,
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APRIL 13, 1976 AND VIENTIANE 0939, APRIL 20, 1976).

F. RAISED QUESTION WITH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
NOUPHANH SITHPASAY DURING ROSENTHAL VISIT (VIENTIANE 1009,
APRIL 26, 1976).

2. WE SHALL SEEK OPPORTUNITY THIS WEEK TO HAND OVER CASE FILES
BROUGHT BY ROSENTHAL AND REPORT WHEN WE HAVE DONE SO.

3. MEANWHILE, MR. ROLAND REIFENRATH, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, INFORMED ME ON
JULY 2, 1976 THAT HE HAD MADE A PERSONAL APPROACH TO THE
FOREIGN OFFICE ON A PARTICULAR CASE. HIS APPROACH WAS POLITELY
RECEIVED BY SOUBANH SRITHIRATH WHO, HOWEVER, STRESSED THE
RUGGED LAO TERRAIN CONDITIONS WHICH MADE SEARCH FOR CRASH SITES
DIFFICULT. REIFENRATH HAD MADE HIS INQUIRY IN REGARD TO THE
CASE OF "STAFF" SERGEANT "EDWARD" PEARCE AT THE REQUEST OF C.V.
NARASIMHAN, UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL FOR INTER AGENCY AFFAIRS
AND COORDINATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS. MR. NARASIMHAN IS A
NEIGHBOR OF SERGEANT PEARCE'S FATHER, A PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE
OFFICER. (NOTE: WE BELIEVE CORRECT NAME IS EDWIN JACK PEARCE,
USAF E-5, JCRC REFERENCE NUMBER 1807-1-10, ACC NO. 1610,
MISSING SINCE 29 MARCH 1972.)
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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